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#### "EXPRESS MAIL" CERTIFICATE

NUMBER: <u>ED 210234059 US</u> DATE OF DEPOSIT: <u>July 27, 2006</u>

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service - "Express Mail Post Office To Addressee" Service under 37 CFR § 1.10 on the above indicated date and is addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Signature of Depositor

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE PATENT EXAMINING OPERATION

In re Application of:	§	Group Art Unit:	3676
Joe William Heathcott and	§		
Chris MacKelvey	§		
	§		
Serial No.: 10/761,041	§		
	§	Examiner: Alis	son K. Pickard
Filed: January 20, 2004	§		
•	§		
For: POWER END SEAL	§	Atty. Dkt.: CDI	30
	§		

#### **AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

### **INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

This amendment is presented with Applicant's Request for Continued Examination (RCE). A final action issued in this case on April 4, 2006. The undersigned and USPTO Examiner Pickard conducted a brief telephonic interview on April 25, 2006 regarding the prior art references of Schofield and Iverson, both previously made of record, but did not reach agreement

Serial Number 10/761,041 Group Art Unit 3676

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regarding any of the then pending claims. All of the then pending claims were discussed. Nevertheless, the discussion was helpful and the undersigned appreciates Examiner Pickard's consideration. Additionally, the undersigned appreciates that Examiner Pickard prepared and forwarded the Interview Summary Form PTOL-413. The undersigned has nothing further to add to the Examiner's statements set forth in the Interview Summary. Applicant hereby includes new claims 9-24. Applicant has canceled claims 1-8. This paper is timely mailed on or before Friday, August 4, 2006, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.7, to fall with in the first month extension of the three-month shortened statutory period. As set forth below, and attached hereto, Applicant respectfully petitions the Office for a one month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) and has included herewith the extension of time fee of \$60.00, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(1).

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

#### **DRAWING AMENDMENTS:**

Please enter the attached amended replacement drawing sheet, marked "Replacement Sheet" in the top margin pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d), which includes amended drawing Figure 2. Drawing Figure 2 has been amended to distinguish features of the present invention that were included in the originally filed application. A marked-up drawing sheet entitled "Annotated Marked-up Drawings," is also attached to this Office Action Response and refers to drawing Figure 2.